

## ABSTRACT

An apparatus is provided which includes (i) a transabdominal tube having a proximal end portion and a distal end portion, and (ii) a pump that is attachable to the distal end portion of the tube. The tube is inserted into a patient such that the proximal end portion of the tube is disposed in the upper digestive system of the patient and the distal end portion of the tube extends externally from the patient. The pump is connected to the distal end portion of the tube, and the pump is controlled to remove partially digested food from the upper digestive system of the patient.